

THE 52ND STREET PROJECT PRESENTS

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ACTORS



ON TOP OF THE WORLD

THE TRIUMPHANT PLAYS

THE
SPRING, 2025
PLAYMAKING
SHOW

FRI., MARCH 28 @ 7:30 P.M.
SAT., MARCH 29 @ 3:00 P.M.
SUN., MARCH 30 @ 3:00 P.M.

THE FIVE ANGELS THEATER
789 10TH AVE.

ON TOP OF THE WORLD: THE TRIUMPHANT PLAYS, ACT 1

All original music composed by Avi A. Amon

SONY TROUBLE

Written by Jaaziel Herold, age 10; Dramaturg/Director: Michael Propster

Philips, a young TV remote control..... Aaron Costa Ganis

Samsung, a 35-inch TV (Philips' older brother)..... Stephanie Jean Lane

Sony, a 60-inch TV Josh Lewis

Left, Right, Up, and Down lyrics by Jaaziel Herold

SWAMPY FRIENDS

Written by Nicholas Tanner, age 10; Dramaturg/Director: Austin Regan

Axy, an axolotl Ali Ewoldt

Kai, a liger Mat Hostetler

Tommy, a living passport Josh Lewis

Penguin Sarah Lopez

Doesn't Understand lyrics by Nicholas Tanner

FIGHT FOR WHAT YOU WANT

Written by Reinisy Ramirez, age 10; Dramaturg/Director: Alex O'Daly

Cristle, a roller skate Daiva Deupree

Jaxson Willson, a deflated basketball Ali Lopez-Sohaili

Person Sarah Lopez

Being Strong lyrics by Reinisy Ramirez

THE ROYAL TWINS

Written by Sophia Morel, age 10; Dramaturg/Director: Grace Rex

Wither Sutsi, a prince in training to be a king Brian Bock

Lixy Sutsi, Wither's sister and a princess Mallory Portnoy

The Love lyrics by Sophia Morel



ON TOP OF THE WORLD: THE TRIUMPHANT PLAYS, ACT 2

THE FINALE

Written by Noah Sanchez, age 11; Dramaturg/Director: George Babiak

- Jason, a dinosaur Carson Elrod
- Rocco, a Pitbull..... KeiLyn Durrel Jones
- Cashier Xavier Espinal
- Zombie dinosaurs John Sheehy, Diego Caoili, George Babiak
- Zion: Rocco's brotherJosh Lewis

The Best Fighting Scene Ever lyrics by Noah Sanchez

THE STORY OF APPLE

Written by Vivian Mignone, age 11, Dramaturg/Director: Zohar Fuller

- Apple, a panda barista..... Annie Fox
- Jessica, a panda coffee shop ownerSimone Recasner

Just a Demon lyrics by Vivian Mignone

DREAMS

Written by Nezai Dickey, age 10; Dramaturg/Director: Christian DeMarais

- Alex, a half-Russian, half-American teen-ager Michael Braun
- Michele, Alex's Russian mother..... Marinda Anderson
- Jeff, Alex's friend George Babiak

Wishes lyrics by Nezai Dickey

THE JOURNEY WITH THE HORSE AND THE DOG

Written by BreeAnna Mack, age 11; Dramaturg/Director: Krystel Lucas

- Ella, a 15-year old dog spyCrystal Dickinson
- John, a 15-year old horse..... Brandon Dirden
- Agent C-O-W Taina Carrion-Perez
- Carly, a dog and Ella's best friend ?

Just Believe in Yourself lyrics by BreeAnna Mack



“ON TOP OF THE WORLD” Production Staff

Composer/Music Director

Avi A. Amon

Set Designer

Burke Brown

Lighting Designer

Greg MacPherson

Costume Designers

Lara DeBrujin and Crystal Thompson

Sound Designer

Harrison Walsh

Stage Manager

Marty Gleberman

Projection Designs

George Babiak, Diego Caoili, and
The Project Projection Archive

Prop Design and Construction

George Babiak and Diego Caoili

Backstage Crew

Taina Carrion-Perez, Josh Lewis,
Diego Caoili, Sarah Lopez,
Xavier Espinal

House Management

Carol Ochs, John Sheehy

Flyer/Program Design

George Babiak & Caylyn Wan-Creager

Livestream Team

Director: Joaquin Caoili

Camera Ops:

Naseem Abdul-Majid, Ayah Musa

Interns

Charlie Zuckerman, Lexi Fujita

Weekend-Away Chef

John Sheehy

The 52nd Street Project Staff

Kat Almirañez, Associate Artistic Director

Avi A. Amon, Musical Director

Ahmed Attia, Director of Development*

George Babiak, Director of Design and Production

Liz Bell, Clinical Consultant

Diego Caoili, Assistant Production Manager

Natalie Hirsch, Artistic Director

Garrett Kim, Program Director

Carol Ochs, Executive Director

John Sheehy, Director of Institutional Advancement

Ana Soto-Gonzalez, Marketing and Events Manager

Liz Sweeney, Director of Education

Caylyn Wan-Creager, Education Associate

Bri Weintraub, Production Manager

Yazzy Wilder, Operations Manager*

Iris A. Brown, Graphic Design Consultant

**Project Alumni*

See the rest of the program!

Scan the QR code at right to see the full program, which includes **biographies and photos of the directors, the performers, and the designers!**



The 52nd Street Project is a non-profit organization that brings children from the Hell's Kitchen neighborhood together with professional theater artists to create original theater. **ON TOP OF THE WORLD** is a production of our Playmaking program. Young people participated in a playwriting course taught by **Kat Almirañez** and adapted for the Project by **Daniel Judah Sklar** from his book *Playmaking: Children Writing and Performing Their Own Plays*. At the end of the course, each child was matched with two actors and a dramaturg/director who guided him or her through the writing of a play during a weekend retreat in the country. For this round, we journeyed to the home of **Kimiye Corwin, Jesse Liebman**, and their daughters **Ruby** and **Maxine** in Roxbury, Connecticut.

The 52nd Street Project Board of Directors

Lisa Benavides-Nelson	Valerie Kay
Rachel Chanoff	Noël Mihalow
Cathy Dantchik, co-chair	Carol Ochs
Carolyn DeSena	Margaret Odette
Louis P. Friedman, co-chair	Willie Reale, founder
Robert Goldberg	Shirley Rumierk, alumni member
Stephen Graham, chair emeritus	José Soto, Jr., alumni member
Annie Hausmann	Wendy vanden Heuvel
Natalie Hirsch	Alexandra Vassilaros
Korey Jackson	Mark Whatley

Special Thanks

In addition to the Corwin/Liebman family we are grateful to our other Roxbury hosts **Anne Coffin, Dan and Stephanie Demole, Heather and Zack Hemsey, Jenny Kuenzle, Julie and Jason Martinelli**, and **Nicole Tongue and Alan Kovac**.



The Playmaking Program is made possible with public funds from the National Endowment for the Arts, The New York State Council on the Arts, with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York Legislature, and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. The 52nd Street Project is a member of Art/NY and Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for the American theatre.

Want to make a donation to The 52nd Street Project?
Just visit www.52project.org and click "You Can Help."

Or make a gift via



@Fifty-Two-Project

COOL STUFF ON SALE IN THE LOBBY!

Flyer Bars	\$ 2 . 5 0
Boxed Water	\$ 2 . 5 0
Vassilaros & Sons Coffee	\$ 2 . 5 0

Project Gear

Ear-Things™ (New!)	\$ 1 0 . 0 0
Mugs	\$ 1 0 . 0 0
Thermal Mugs	\$ 1 5 . 0 0
WABWAGA T-shirts	\$ 1 5 . 0 0
Sweatshirts	\$ 3 5 . 0 0
Adidas Quarter-Zip Athletic Shirts	\$ 4 0 . 0 0

Thank you for coming to **ON TOP OF THE WORLD!** If you are not on our mailing list, join on-line at www.52project.org. If you're interested in being a volunteer, fill out the form below and hand it to one of our staffers in the lobby.

PLEASE PUT ME ON YOUR LIST:

03/25

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____

DAYTIME OR MOBILE PHONE _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

MY OCCUPATION _____

MY HOBBIES _____

WANT TO BE GREEN AND SAVE THE PROJECT MONEY ON POSTAGE?
CHECK THIS BOX TO RECEIVE OUR NOTICES EXCLUSIVELY VIA E-MAIL.

YES, I WOULD LIKE TO BE OF HELP. I CAN:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Help load in and out for shows | <input type="checkbox"/> Draw and/or paint | <input type="checkbox"/> Help kids with homework |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hang lights | <input type="checkbox"/> Help with mailings | <input type="checkbox"/> Teach kids a skill |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Work on a backstage crew | <input type="checkbox"/> Do office work | <input type="checkbox"/> Be a chef at an event |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Do graphic design | <input type="checkbox"/> Design sound | <input type="checkbox"/> Design and sew costumes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____ | | |

MY SCHEDULE IS:

- Very flexible. I'm often available during weekdays.
- Somewhat flexible. I can help on the occasional morning or afternoon during the week.
- Not very flexible at all, but I've got some free time on evenings and weekends.

If you would like to mail this (and you're always welcome to enclose a tax-deductible contribution), you can send it to: The 52nd Street Project, 789 10th Avenue, New York, NY 10019. Or fax it to (212) 333-5598.

WHAT'S COMING UP?

The 52nd Street Project Presents

Punch It Up!

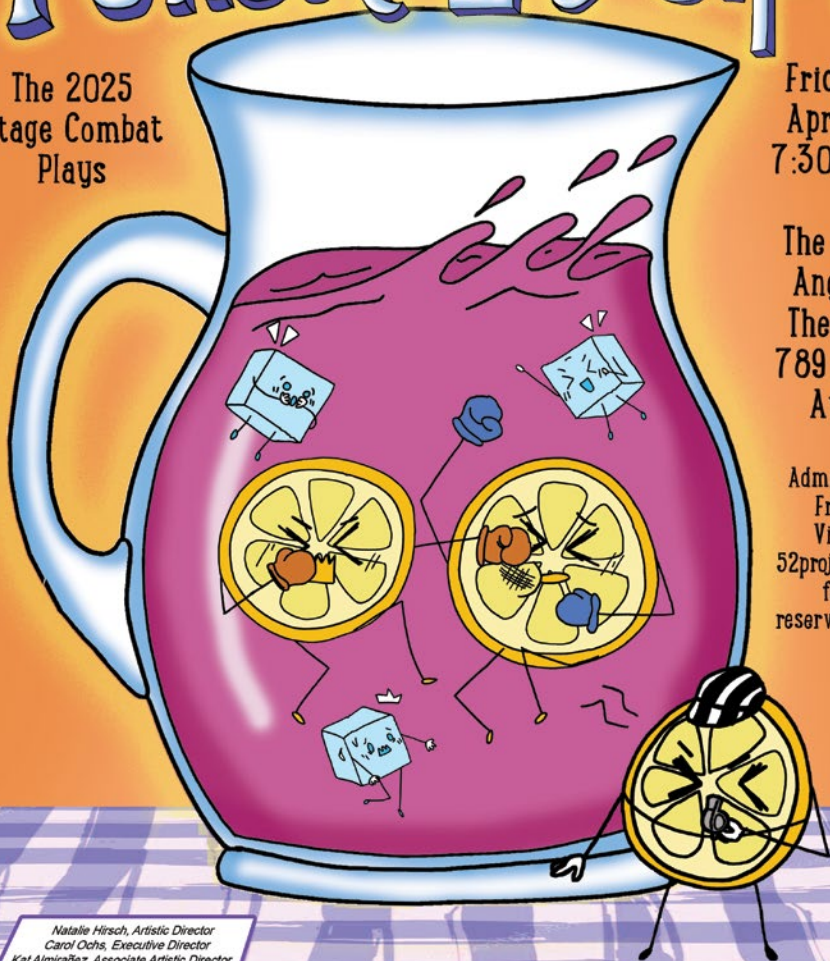
The 2025
Stage Combat
Plays

Friday,
April 11
7:30 p.m.

The Five
Angels
Theater
789 10th
Ave.

Admission
Free!
Visit
52project.org
for
reservations.

ARTWORK BY REBECA VANTERPOOL AND ALLY THOMAS



Natalie Hirsch, Artistic Director
Carol Ochs, Executive Director
Kat Almiráñez, Associate Artistic Director
Garrett Kim, Program Director

BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR INTERNS!

If you know of any college or graduate students who might enjoy working with us and playing with us with us for a semester, please have them contact Caylyn Creager (creager@52project.org). We are currently looking for interns for the Summer and Fall of 2025. Thanks!



BIOGRAPHIES



Avi A. Amon, *Music Director*, (*he/they*) is an award-winning Turkish-American composer, sound artist, and educator. He has written hundreds of songs with the young people at The 52nd St. Project over the years and continues to be inspired each time he sets foot in the building. Outside of The Project, Avi is a sought-after collaborator in theater, film, dance, and experiential art. Recent work includes music, songs, and sound design for projects with: Ars Nova, Disney, Hulu, The O’Neill, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, New York Theater Workshop, The New Victory, PlayCo, The Public Theater, and Tribeca Film Festival, among others. Some fun upcoming projects include: music and sound design for *A GOOD DAY TO ME AND NOT TO YOU* (dir. Lee Sunday Evans) at the Connelly Theater next month; music & sound design for *THE FOLLOWING EVENING* with the 600 Highwaymen (Perelman Performing Arts Center, Winter 2024); and music for *THROUGH THE SUNKEN LANDS* with Tim J. Lord (Kennedy Center, Spring 2024). Avi teaches a variety of collaborative art-making courses at NYU Tisch, where he received his MFA in Musical Theatre Writing. www.aviamon.com.



Marinda Anderson (*Michele*, *DREAMS*, by Nezai) has been dazzling audiences at The 52nd Street Project since 2014, starring in numerous plays and legendary Songmaking concerts. Most recently, she wowed the crowd at the 2025 *DRAWING THE LINE* Gala with her dynamic performance of “*Hot Tub to Roller Coaster*” —a song that truly captures her range (both vocally and emotionally). From portraying a competitive weatherwoman in *TODAY’S FORECAST* to a butterfly afraid to fly in *BUTTERFLIES ARE FREE*, Marinda continues to give it her all. She remains patiently (okay, impatiently) waiting for one of the Project’s playwrights to hire her for her breakout role.



George Babiak (*Dramaturge/Director*, *THE FINALE*, by Noah; *Jeff*, *DREAMS*, by Nezai) worked for years as a bicycle mechanic at Bicycle Habitat in New York City while futilely pursuing a career in the theater. Prior to working at the Project, he helped found Recycle-A-Bicycle. George also traveled the world as a member of TheatreSports New York, an improv comedy troupe. He has a degree in English Literature from Hunter College. George is also a PADI SCUBA Divemaster and a member of the New York Aquarium Volunteer Dive Team since 2007. Two of his proudest achievements are swimming the Hellespont in Turkey in 2015 and 2019 with his wife Vanessa Valdes. He loves the Project and is delighted to have finally found that elusive career in the theater.



Brian Bock (*Wither Sutsi*, *THE ROYAL TWINS*, by Sophia) is a boorish weirdo who loves to sing and make a spectacle. He’s a longtime admirer and a first-time participant of The 52nd Street Project. He’s proud to have hair in this production.



Michael Braun (*Alex*, *DREAMS*, by Nezai) Most recent Project show: *Tim* in *ESCAPE* by Mamadou. Film credits include *The Tender Bar* (Dir. George Clooney), *The Courtroom* (Dir. Lee Sunday Evans), and *Deep Water* (Dir. Adrian Lyne), Chris Morris’s *The Day Shall Come*, *Dark Water*, *Incoming*, *Dare*, *Igby Goes Down* and *Drinks!* Television credits include the third season of “The Sinner,” EJ in the final season of Showtime’s “The Affair” opposite Anna Paquin; “Succession”; “The Night Of,” “High Maintenance,” “Mozart in the Jungle,” “The Good Wife,” “Nurse Jackie,” “Law & Order,” “The Blacklist,” “Blue Bloods,” “Unforgettable,”

“Do No Harm,” “Comedy Bang! Bang!” the ABC pilot “Awkward Situations for Men,” and the Apple show “Dickinson.” He has appeared on Broadway in *The Crucible* (Dir. Ivo Van Hove), *War Horse* at Lincoln Center; as well as *The Bridge Project: Winter’s Tale/Cherry Orchard*, (Dir. Sam Mendes) at BAM and the Old Vic in London. Other New York theater credits include shows at The Signature Theater, The Public Theater and Second Stage as well as work across the country at the McCarter, NY Stage and Film, Williamstown Theater Festival, Yale Rep, Centerstage, and Seattle Rep. MFA, Yale School of Drama. Recipient of the Princess Grace Award.



Diego Caoili is a Bay Area native who graduate from Marymount Manhattan College with a BFA in Acting and a minor in Environmental Studies. Through growing up competitive dancing with Spark of Creation Studios, and engineering in Design Tech High School, he continues to lead a life of learning thanks to The 52nd Project’s opportunities!



Lara de Bruijn (*Costume Designer*) is so excited to be working on this set of plays! She has been working with The 52nd Street Project since 2009. In that time, she has designed for One-on-Ones, Playmaking, Playback, and Teen Ensemble. She was first drawn to the Project for its commitment to supporting theatre for, and by, young people. Over the years, she has been delighted and awed by wildly creative characters and stories written. Nothing brings her more joy than being able to be a part of bringing it all to life!



Christian DeMarais (*Dramaturge/Director, DREAMS*, by Neza) is ecstatic to be back at the Project working with the incredible Neza on bringing his fantastic play to life. You may recognize Christian from his most recent stint directing / playing a dog owner to his Smart Partner Atif in *RUFFLY SPEAKING* by Cynthia Kaplan or as the super-hero Stamps in *CHOICES*, where he directed and performed alongside Project Legend Aiden. Perhaps you may even remember Christian as a Tree who just wants to get a job so he can move out of his parents’ house in Katty’s play *FURNITURE & TREES*. There was also another play Aiden wrote where Christian got decapitated, but not sure if this bio is the best place to talk about murder. Regardless, Christian is super grateful to be here (as always) and to have the opportunity to learn from all these brilliant, imaginative, inspiring kiddos!



Daiva Deupree (*Cristle, FIGHT FOR WHAT YOU WANT*, by Reinisy) Most recent Project performance: *Katarina Maria Vera Alno*, in *MISSION 212, THE GAME TO GET THE GEM*, by Eliza. This is Daiva’s 9th show with The 52nd Street Project. Previous roles include: Video Store Clerk Fighting a Zombie Apocalypse, Madame President’s Little Sister, Farmer with the Power of the Sun, Teen Learning the Dangers of Social Media, Bear, and Dolphin Trying to Find Her Family. She was also Education Assistant to Liz Bell and Smart Partner to the one in a million, Jayleen. She would like to thank Liz for getting her involved, Jayleen for accepting her for exactly who she is, and the staff at The Project for always making her feel so darn welcome.



Nezai Dickey (*Playmaker, DREAMS*) joined the Project in January 2025. This is his Playmaking debut. Nezaï can also be heard on the PROJcast, Episode 55, “Worldly Playmakers.”



Crystal Dickinson (*Ella, THE JOURNEY WITH THE HORSE AND THE DOG!*, by BreeAnna) is proud to be a part of The 52nd Street Project since 2007! She's done a bunch of plays at a bunch of theaters but this is one of the ones she loves best! She thanks you for being here and supporting live theater!

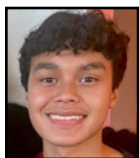


Brandon Dirden (*John, THE JOURNEY OF THE HORSE AND THE DOG*, by BreeAnna) Proud Project volunteer for nearly two decades! Among his many roles, he has appeared as a bratty brother, an optimistic ant, a bully basketball player, an overly concerned customer service rep and now a horse of a few colors. He is married to fellow project volunteer, Crystal Dickinson, and together they were honored at The Project's 2020 gala. The

52nd Street Project is his all-time favorite theater and he is amazed by the wonderfully talented young people of this community!



Carson Elrod is overjoyed to be back doing Playmaking with the 52nd Street Project and super honored to be working on this particular show with the legendary George Babiak. He's been on Broadway in Peter and the Starcatcher, Reckless, and Noises Off, and appeared at the Met Opera in The Merry Widow. Off-Broadway, he's done Shakespeare in the Parks; both Central Park and Marcus Garvey Park! Around town he's worked for Red Bull, MTC, CSC, NYTW, TFNA, The Public, and many more. Out of town he's acted at Williamstown, A.R.T., Berkeley Rep and more. TV credits include EVIL, The Good Fight, 30 Rock, and films like Wedding Crashers and Kissing Jessica Stein. Carson co-founded Arts Workers United. Learn more and become a member at www.artsworkersunited.com



Xavier Espinal (*Crew; John, THE FINALE*, by Noah) joined the Project in the fall of 2017 with his playwriting debut *The Bad Uncle*, dramaturged and directed by Michael Propster with Reynaldo Piniella and Arielle Goldman as a part of STIRRING THE POT, *The Spicy Plays*. He made his acting debut in *Three Little Pigs*, written by, directed by and co-starring Marchant Davis, for the 2018 One-on-Ones, GOOD VIBRATIONS, *Plays With*

Sound Foundations. He created the movement piece *Space Adventure Odyssey* with Gardiner Comfort for the 2019 Dancemaking concert STEP ON IT. His play *Title (That's The Name)*, dramaturged and directed by Brisa Muñoz and featuring Biko Eisen-Martin & Kara Young was a part of zoom Playmaking, LIGHTING THE LAMP, *The Illuminating Plays*, in June 2020. He wrote and starred in *It's Just Business*, with Marchant Davis for virtual Playback in 2020. He participated in the 2020 Songmaking workshop and wrote the lyrics for "Just Found," music by Avi Amon, which was performed by Ronald Peet as a part of our HIDDEN GEMS virtual gala in 2021. He performed his own spoken word piece "I Am ...", directed by Ronald Peet for Flying Solo in 2022. He appeared in the Teen Ensemble devised productions EYE OF THE STORM & MORE THAN WORDS. He has been on backstage crew for many shows, and is a Smart Partner. His most recent play *MINDSETTING*, was part of TELL IT LIKE IT IS, Replay, 2025. Xavier can be heard on the PROJcast, Episode 45 "Looking into the EYE OF THE STORM," and Episode 54, "Smart Partners & The Bucket of Questions."



Ali Ewoldt (*Axy, SWAMPY FRIENDS*, by Nichholas) Most recent Project performance: Songmaking concert, *TUNE IN*, fall 2023. On Broadway she has appeared as Christine Daaé in *The Phantom of the Opera* on Broadway, Cosette in *Les Miserables* (Broadway, National Tour), in *The King and I* (Lincoln Center, Lyric Opera of Chicago), and as Luisa in *The Fantasticks* (Off-Broadway). Regionally, she has played Amalia in *She Loves Me*

(Signature Theatre, Helen Hayes nomination), Yook Mei in *Gold Mountain* (Utah Shakes), Rose in *The Secret Garden* (CTG; FITC concert with Rebecca), Philia in *A Funny Thing...* (The Muny), Fan/Mrs. Bonds in *A Christmas Carol* (McCarter Theatre), and Sarah Brown in *Guys and Dolls* (Sacramento Music Circus). Concert/symphony work includes: Alice Tully Hall, The Town Hall, NY Pops at Carnegie Hall, APO, Houston Symphony, Kaohsiung Symphony and The Boston Pops. TV/Film credits include "The Michael J. Fox Show," *Yield*, and the short films *Mia* and *The Cactus*. Ali has a BA in psychology from Yale University and is a proud Filipina American. Ali lives in Hell's Kitchen with her husband Mat Hostetler and their adorable dog Mia. @aliewoldt



Annie Fox (*Apple, THE STORY OF APPLE*, by Vivian) This is Annie Fox's debut with The 52nd Street Project!! She is excited about playing with her real-life dear friend Simone, and bringing Vivian's incredible story to life onstage.



Zohar Fuller (*Dramaturge/Director, THE STORY OF APPLE*, by Vivian) This is Zohar's directorial debut at the Project! She heard about the Project from many friends who have been volunteering for years. Zohar saw the fall Playmaking production and afterwards she knew that she had to volunteer with the next Playmaking group. Zohar loves developing new work and has extensive experience directing theater with young people. She is very excited to start her artistic journey at the Project with this production and can't wait to share with you the imaginative world that Vivian has created.



Aaron Costa Ganis (*Phillips, SONY TROUBLE*, by Jaaziel) is so happy to be back at The 52nd Street Project playing a TV remote! He loves this place! Woohoo!! Aaron currently recurs on *Raising Kanan* on Starz, and will be in the upcoming Steven Spielberg Untitled Event Film for Universal. He can be seen theatrically this summer/fall in *Ava: The Secret Conversations* at MTC alongside Elizabeth McGovern, and has worked on and off-Broadway in NYC/LA at the Roundabout Theatre Company, LAByrinth Theater Company, Second Stage Theater, The Public Theater, Geffen Playhouse, Pasadena Playhouse, etc. He can be seen on TV in *Fantasy Island*, *The Endgame*, *Bull*, *Almost Family*, *Blue Bloods*, *Jessica Jones* and in the recent films *Susie Searches*, *The Noel Diary*, *Lazy Eye*, *Monsters and Men*, and *Set It Up*.



Marty Gleberman (*Stage Manager*): is a naturally-occurring fungus that puts out its mushrooms in a variety of seasons. It can be found in the Five Angels Theater and similar biomes. While not harmful if ingested, extreme caution should be taken not to accidentally track Marty spores into your own home. Please check your shoes carefully upon leaving the theater.



Jaaziel Herold (*Playmaker, SONY TROUBLE*) joined the Project in January 2025. This is his Playmaking debut. Jaaziel can also be heard on the PROJcast, Episode 55, "Worldly Playmakers."



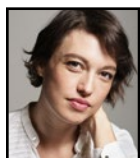
Mat Hostetler (*Kai, SWAMPY FRIENDS*, by Nicholas) is thrilled to be back at the Project with his favorite people in the world! Recent Project: In-class volunteer, SETTING THE TONE, Character Workshop 2025; *Director/Dramaturg, DREAMS COME TRUE* by Walter: FOOD FOR THOUGHT, Playmaking Fall 2023. An actor, director and producer, Mat's credits include

Corruption at Lincoln Center, *The Incident at Our Lady of Perpetual Help* at Penguin Rep and the recent Broadway production of *Death of a Salesman*. Other credits include the National tour and Japanese production of *War Horse, Terminus* at NYTW Next Door, *The Royale* at Lincoln Center and several regional productions including Hartford Stage, La Jolla Playhouse, KC Rep and Denver Center. TV credits include "The Gilded Age," "City on a Hill," "FBI: Most Wanted," "The Blacklist," "Smash," "Boardwalk Empire," "Six Feet Under." Education: MFA, National Theatre Conservatory. BA, University of Kansas. Mat lives in Hell's Kitchen with his wife, Ali and their adorable dog, Mia. Mat is a member of Actor's Equity Association.



KeiLyn Durrel Jones (*Rocco, THE FINALE*, by Noah) Most recent Project show: Playback 2019, HEARD IT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE, *The Surprising Plays*, dramaturge/director/actor, *RAPPERS AND POLICE*

OFFICERS ALWAYS GO TOGETHER, by Carlos. Antoine Fuqua directed feature MICHAEL for Universal as Michael Jackson's bodyguard-turned-confidant BILL BRAY. He is a series regular in the Onyx original series HOW TO DIE ALONE alongside Natasha Rothwell. KeiLyn also guest starred on EAST NEW YORK, CHICAGO FIRE, THE EQUALIZER and BLUE BLOODS and has had recurring guest star roles on HBO's SUCCESSION, Netflix's series I-LAND, Showtime's CITY ON A HILL and AMC's BETTER CALL SAUL. He starred in the short film SPARRING PARTNER which made its premiere at the 2022 Tribeca Film Festival and starred in a supporting lead role in Neil Labute's feature OUT OF THE BLUE opposite Diane Kruger. He is a graduate of NYU Grad Acting.



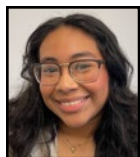
Stephanie Jean Lane (*Samsung, SONY TROUBLE*, by Jaaziel) is an actor, director, writer, teacher, and dancer who has volunteered with The 52nd Street Project since 2016! She has played an older sister, a mermaid monster, a girl with a backpack, a whale, and now a 35-inch T.V., and has directed kid-written plays about betrayal and redemption, friendship, and many a hero's journey. Her favorite Project memories include boogie

boarding out on Block Island, and getting beaten by 9-year-olds in epic card games in Rumson, NJ. It is a thrill to perform Sony Trouble by the talented Jaaziel.



Josh Lewis (*Crew; Zion, THE FINALE*, by Noah) began working with the Project in 1999. Favorite roles include George Bush's Most Important Helper. Favorite one-on-one he's written include Ground Crew Gary.

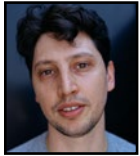
Favorite lines in a Playmaking show include "We can do this the hard way or the easy way." Favorite men's chorus he's been a part of in a show - Menergy! Favorite project memory - meeting his wife at a Project picnic, with whom he is now raising their project offspring.



Sarah Lopez (*Crew; Penguin, SWAMPY FRIENDS*, by Nicholas) joined the Project in the fall of 2017 with her playwriting debut *Hollywood Is Harsh*, dramaturged by Carrigan O'Brian, directed by Sarah Krohn with Lynne Rosenberg and Chalia La Tour as a part of STIRRING THE POT, *The Spicy Plays*. She made her acting debut in Dylan Dawson's *Cock-a-doodle-don't*, directed by and co-starring Daiva Deupree, for the 2018 One-on-Ones,

GOOD VIBRATIONS, *Plays With Sound Foundations*. She created the movement piece

Dancing + Fighting = Fencing with Madalyn Baker for the 2019 Dancemaking concert STEP ON IT. Her play *It All Started with Coffee and Tea*, dramaturged and directed by Ceci Fernandez and featuring Jennelle Chu & Eston Fung was a part of zoom Playmaking, LIGHTING THE LAMP, *The Illuminating Plays*, in June 2020. She participated in the 2020 Songmaking workshop and wrote the lyrics for “Feeling a Purpose: (Full Picture),” music by Avi Amon, which was performed by Jessica Carvo as a part of our HIDDEN GEMS virtual gala in 2021. She appeared in the Teen Ensemble devised productions EYE OF THE STORM & MORE THAN WORDS. She has been on backstage crew, as well as working as a camera operator for our live streams, and is a Smart Partner. Sarah can be heard on episodes of the PROJcast, #13 “Making Change,” and #44 “The Nature of Time with Sarah & Lynne.”



Ali Lopez-Sohaili (*Jaxson Willson, FIGHT FOR WHAT YOU WANT*, by Reinity) is honored to have been invited back to Playmaking for a second time. Off-Broadway: *Power Strip* (Lincoln Center LCT3), *Disgraced*, (Alliance Theater, Suzi Bass nomination), *Disclaimer* (The Nimoy) . Television/film: “Manifest”, “Law & Order SVU”, *The Unknown Country*, *Didn’t Die* (Sundance) and the upcoming Netflix movie *Nonnas* (May 2025) opposite Vince Vaughn and Lorraine Bracco. Ali is an LA native. Juilliard 2013.



Krystel Lucas (*Dramaturge/Director, THE JOURNEY WITH THE HORSE AND THE DOG*, by BreeAnna) received her MFA from NYU’s Grad Acting Program after attending the American Musical and Dramatic Academy and attaining her BA from UNC-Asheville. She is a freelance actor, director, executive coach, and teaching artist. Some theatrical credits include *Romeo and Juliet* (Sketchbook Theatre); *Dial M For Murder* (Westport Country Playhouse and Syracuse Stage); *Galboss Power Hour* (Primary Stages); *Hamlet* (Shakespeare Theatre DC); *Pride and Prejudice*, *Good People* (Dorset Theatre Festival); *Couriers and Contrabands* (Barrow Group Theatre); *Our Town* (Triad Stage); *Love’s Labour’s Lost* (Shakespeare in the Park(ing) Lot); *Twelfth Night*, *The Christians* (Denver Center); *Disgraced* (Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park); *Twelfth Night Short Shakespeare* (Chicago Shakespeare Theater); *The Book of Will*, *Twelfth Night* (Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival); *In the Next Room* (Syracuse Stage and Repertory Theatre of St. Louis); *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, *The Merchant of Venice* (Old Globe Theatre); *Good People*, *Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Jersey Lily* (Alley Theatre); *Death and the King’s Horseman*, *Macbeth* (Oregon Shakespeare Festival); *The Sty of the Blind Pig* (TheaterWorks Hartford); *The Summer House* (Passage Theatre Company). On television and film, she appeared in *Jessica Jones* (Netflix), *Dying For Sex* (Hulu), *The Blacklist* (NBC), and *Eidolon* (upcoming feature). She is a proud volunteer at The 52nd Street Project and a long-serving chair of NYU’s Grad Acting Alumni Association.



Greg MacPherson (*Lighting Designer*) is a member of Ensemble Studio Theatre where he designed the annual Marathon of One-Act Plays from 1985 through 2003 and again in 2010, 11, 13, 15, 17 and 19. Other designs include *Killer Joe* at Soho Rep, *The Hotel Play* at LaMama ETC, *The Pitchfork Disney* at Here and *Easter for Naked Angels*. He recently designed *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* and *Cinderella* for Ballet Memphis, *The Cradle Will Rock* as a benefit for The Acting Company, *Meet Me at the Plaza* for Shuffles, and *Halcyon Days* at ART NY. Greg has designed for The 52nd Street Project since 1986 and taught lighting design at Sarah Lawrence College from 1990 through 2022.



BreeAnna Mack (*Playmaker, THE JOURNEY WITH THE HORSE AND THE DOG*) joined the Project in JANUARY 2025. This is her Playmaking debut. BreeAnna can also be heard on the PROJcast, Episode 55, “Worldly Playmakers.”



Vivian Mignone (*Playmaker, THE STORY OF APPLE*) joined the Project in January 2025. This is her Playmaking debut. Vivian can also be heard on the PROJcast, Episode 55, “Worldly Playmakers.”



Sophia Morel (*Playmaker, THE ROYAL TWINS*) joined the Project in January 2025. This is her Playmaking debut. Sophia can also be heard on the PROJcast, Episode 55, “Worldly Playmakers.”



Alex O'Daly (*Dramaturge/Director, FIGHT FOR WHAT YOU WANT*, by Reinisy) is an actress, producer, and creative strategist. A lifelong storyteller, she channels that same creative energy into her work as a strategist and marketer, shaping brand identity through bold editorial campaigns and experiential initiatives. Alex has been a proud volunteer with The 52nd Street project since 2008. She has had the honor of being a Smart Partner twice and has had the privilege of directing 10 (!) Playmaking shows. A born and raised New Yorker, she attended LaGuardia High School for Performing Arts and received her BFA in acting from The Theatre School at DePaul University, Chicago.



Taina Carrion Perez (*Crew*) This is Taina’s first show as backstage crew with The 52nd Street Project! She had the amazing opportunity of volunteering in the Playmaking class, and was the dramaturg for Nezai. She is incredibly proud of all of the playwrights and to see their visions come to life!



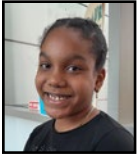
Mallory Portnoy (*Lixy Sutsi, THE ROYAL TWINS*, by Sophia) Most recent Project performance: Songmaking concert TUNE IN, fall 2023. Broadway: *Oklahoma!* (Tony Award for Best Revival of a Musical). Other New York Credits: *Oklahoma!* (St. Ann’s Warehouse, Bard Summerscape), *A Party With Comden and Green* (Cafe Carlyle), *Most Happy* (Bard Summerscape, Williamstown Theatre Festival), California (Clubbed

Thumb’s Summerworks), *Privacy* (The Public Theater in Association with The Donmar Warehouse), *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* (The Public Theater/Shakespeare in the Park), *Inspired by True Events* (OOTB). Other Regional Credits: Denver Center, Chautauqua Theater Company. TV: *American Horror Story* (FX), *American Rust* (Amazon Prime), *The Good Fight* (Paramount+), *Grace and Frankie* (Netflix), *The Helpsters* (Apple TV). Film: *Maestro*. Training: University of Illinois Urbana/Champaign, Juilliard.



Michael Propster (*Dramaturge/Director, SONY TROUBLE*, by Jaaziel) has been volunteering at The 52nd Street Project for as long as he can remember. It’s his favorite place. The Project has given him the amazing opportunity to perform, direct, and write with some incredible kids and mega-talented adults. When not at the Project, Michael has worked as a theatre artist and professor splitting time between New York, DC, New England, as

well as regionally. Some professional credits include: Off-Broadway, Off-Off Broadway, NY Fringe, Trinity Rep, Shakespeare Festival St. Louis, Seacoast Rep, Round House Theatre, Olney Theatre Center, Imagination Stage, Amios Theatre Company, and the National Players. Michael received his MFA from the Brown University/Trinity Repertory Acting Program. -michaelpropster.com



Reinisy Ramirez (*Playmaker, FIGHT FOR WHAT YOU WANT*) joined the Project in January 2025. This is her Playmaking debut. Reinisy can also be heard on the PROJcast, Episode 55, “Worldly Playmakers.”



Simone Recasner (*Jessica, THE STORY OF APPLE*, by Vivian) is thrilled to return to The 52nd Street Project stage where she has previously played a fake friend in Doris’ play *THE FAKE FRIEND AND THE RICH GIRL*; and an insatiable baby in Taliyah’s play *HUNGRY HUNTER*. Some characters from Simone’s TV, Film and Theater work include a single mom who takes a second shot at her dream of becoming a dancer, a woman escaping a maniacal doll maker, a doula, an aspiring actress, a reality tv star, a churchgoer, a snooty pregnant woman. Upcoming she will be playing an annoying millennial and a two faced executive GET EXCITED!



Austin Regan (*Dramaturge/Director, SWAMPY FRIENDS*, by Nicholas) is a NYC-based theater and opera director who has been volunteering with the amazing 52nd Street Project since 2015! Austin is the Tour Director for *A BEAUTIFUL NOISE*, the Neil Diamond musical, and the Resident Director of *LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS* Off-Broadway. Other recent directing includes *Threepenny Opera* with Opera Columbus and the experimental performance piece *Left and Right* at National Sawdust and De Singel. Upcoming: *UH-OH!* at Judson Church with partner and fellow Project volunteer Kendal Hartse. Austin’s work collaborating with members of The 52nd Street Project also includes plays by Aramis Jimenez, Adolfo Sinchi, Ramsis Ramirez, and Joel Gokalp.



Grace Rex (*Dramaturge/Director, THE ROYAL TWINS*, by Sophia) Most recent Project show: *Lim* in *ESCAPE* by Mamadou. Theatre credits: *53% Of* (Second Stage Uptown), *Nantucket Sleigh Ride* (Lincoln Center), *Life and Limb* (Steppenwolf), *Ed, Downloaded* (Denver Center), *Pumpgirl* (A Red Orchid). Her TV credits include ‘Severance’, ‘Mindhunter’, ‘Manifest’, ‘Master of None’, ‘Blindspot’, ‘The Good Wife’ and ‘Boardwalk Empire’. Film credits include *Contagion*, *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty*, *Women Who Kill*, *Inspector Ike* and *The Dilemma*.



Noah Sanchez (*Playmaker, THE FINALE*) joined the Project in January 2025. This is his Playmaking debut. Noah can also be heard on the PROJcast, Episode 55, “Worldly Playmakers.”



John Sheehy (*Zombie Dinosaur 2, THE FINALE*, by Noah) is a writer, director, actor, & lyricist; and has been a full-time employee of The 52nd Street Project since 1998. At the Project, he has written, performed and directed dozens of shows, stage-managed, and sound designed; as well as being the chef on program retreats. He is a producer/editor and occasional

host of the Project's podcast, The PROJcast. He has an MFA in Dramatic Writing from Brandeis University. His plays have been seen in Boston, New York, Los Angeles, Miami, and Louisville. He is married to the composer, and frequent Project volunteer, Kim D. Sherman.



Crystal Thompson (*Costume Designer*) has designed and made costumes for The 52nd Street Project for over 20 years. She just couldn't resist coming back to do costumes for George's last show before he retires. It's so good to be back creating with you guys!



Nicholas Tanner (*Playmaker, SWAMPY FRIENDS*) joined the Project in January 2025. This is his Playmaking debut. Nicholas can also be heard on the PROJcast, Episode 55, "Worldly Playmakers."



Harrison Walsh (*Sound Designer*) – The 52nd Street Project: LOOK WHO'S TALKING, *Plays That Speak to You, One-on-One 2024*. He's a senior Film and Media Production major and double minor in Photography and Interactive Media. He is President of Mount Studios and a Comm Arts Department student ambassador. With Mount Studios, he has led mobile video recording and live streaming teams with student organizations such as Dead Rabbit Society, Off the Dome, PRISM, and the Black and Latinx Student Association. He has also worked on archival and promotional material for organizations such as PlayOn and The Musical Theater Association, as well as revues and concerts at 54 Below and Green Room 42. Sound: TedEd-Être International Day of the Girl (Sound Engineer); *The Sound Music, Into The Woods, Spring Awakening-Kidz Theater (A1); 13: The Musical, A Chorus Line-MMC Musical Theater Association (Sound Designer/A1)*. Film/Video: *Lavender Light, Crossing Borders, Sensory Stimuli, A Worthy Performance (Stop Light Productions); On The Spot!, "An Average British Evening," Roll Griffins (Mount Studios)*. @sir.h.walsh + @stoptlightproductions (he/him)

